

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4233

UNCLAS ROME 6826

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO EFIS EAGR

SUBJ: FAO AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEES/CONSIDERATION
FO THE PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET

REF: ROME 6561

1. THE FAO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE REVIEWED THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE FAO SUMMARY OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR 1978/79 UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5. SINCE THE AGRICULTURE DIVISION IS FAO'S LARGEST, THE TOTAL SUMS CONSIDERED, DLR62,991,000 ON BASIS OF 670 LIRA EQUALS ONE DOLLAR FOR COMPARATIVE PURPOSES, CONSTITUTES A LARGE PART OF THE FAO'S BUDGET. IN VIEW OF TECHNICAL NATURE OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, DELEGATION DID NOT COMMENT ON BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE SUMMARY PROGRAM.

2. THE SECRETARIAT'S EXCERPS OF THE SUMMARY PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET DOES NOT ITEMIZE SPECIFIC PROGRAMS, BUT ONLY GIVES AN IDEA OF MAGNITUDES AND CHANGES. TWENTY-THREE COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S. SPOKE ON THE ITEM AND EXPRESSED GENRAL ACCORD WITH THE FAO SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSED PRIORITIES. CRIICISM WAS MOSTLY TIED TO REQUESTS FOR MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON PARTICULAR PROGRAMS. DELEGATES WERE ASSURED THAT THESE QUESTIONS WOULD BE ANSWERED
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IN THE FINAL FAO BUDGET PROPOSAL. THE PRIORITIES SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED WITH APPROVAL WERE: POST-HARVEST FOOD LOSSES, TRYPARO-SOMIASIS AND TICKBORNE DISEASES, SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS, RURAL DEVELOPMENT (INCLUDING CREDIT, TRAINING, THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND NUTRITION) COMMODITY POLICY AND FOOD SECURITY, AND RELATED POLICY SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE.

3. THE COMMITTEE GENERALLY APPROVED THE CONSOLIDATION OF FERTILIZER ACTIVITIES IN ONE OFFICE IN THE FAO AGRICULTURAL DIVISION. DELEGATES ALSO SPOKE IN APPROVAL OF TRANSFERRING THE RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE TAC SECRETARIAT OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH TO THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL, AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

4. THE FAO FISHERIES COMMITTEE (COFI) REVIEWED THE FISHERIES ASPECTS OF THE FAO SUMMARY OF WORK AND BUDGET 1978/79. THE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S TOTAL BUDGET FOR 1978/79 COMES TO DLR18,636,000 ON THE SAME BASIS. THIS IS AN INCREASE OF DLR672,000 OR OVER 3 PERCENT.

5. MOST DELEGATES EXPRESSED GENERAL APPROVAL OF THE PRIORITIES EXPRESSED IN SUMMARY BUDGET INCLUDING GREATER ATTENTION TO PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION AND SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES.

6. FAO DOCUMENT PRESENTING THE PROGRAM OF FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WAS SUBJECTED TO MUCH CRITICISM, INCLUDING THAT OF U.S., FOR ITS GENERALITY AND LACK OF SPECIFICITY WHICH MADE IT HARD TO KNOW HOW OBJECTIVES WERE TO BE ACHIEVED OR WHAT FUNDS WERE BEING ALLOCATED TO PARTICULAR ACTIVITIES.

7. SEPARATE CABLE SENT RE EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION IN COFI ON ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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